

REMARKS:

- 1) Entry and consideration of the present Response after Final are respectfully requested. **The present amendment merely cancels the previous rejected claims.** All remaining claims have been allowed. Therefore, entry of the present Response after Final is appropriate.
- 2) Referring to item 10) of the Office Action Summary, the Examiner is respectfully requested to **indicate the acceptance of the formal drawings originally filed with this application.** As noted in the prior Response of July 22, 2003, the drawing objection was overcome by amending the claims to avoid the basis of the objection. Thus, the formal drawings should now be acceptable.
- 3) The claims have been amended as follows. **Claims 45 and 46 have been canceled.** The other claims have been maintained without any further changes.
- 4) Referring to section 5 on page 3 of the Office Action, the indicated allowance of claims 24, 25, 27, 29, 31 to 44 and 47 is **appreciated.** These are the only claims remaining in the application, so the application should now be allowable.
- 5) Referring to section 4 on pages 2 to 3 of the Office Action, the prior art rejection of claims 45 and 46 has been obviated by the cancellation of claims 45 and 46. Thus, there is no rejection remaining against the present application.

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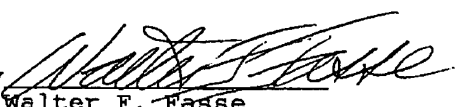
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- 6) For the above reasons, allowance of the present application, including all remaining claims 24, 25, 27, 29, 31 to 44 and 47, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

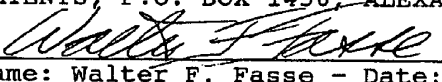
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CERTIFICATE OF FAX TRANSMISSION:

I hereby certify that this correspondence with all indicated enclosures is being transmitted by telefax to (703) 872-9306 on the date indicated below, and is addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

 2/26/04
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